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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/653,527	08/31/2000	Vladimir Berezin	08305/078001/99-23	4646

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EXAMINER

WHIPKEY, JASON T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/653,527

Applicant(s)

BEREZIN ET AL.

Examiner

Jason T. Whipkey

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 11-16 and 22-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9 and 11-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-16 and 22-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's amendment filed on February 28, 2006, with respect to claims 7, 11, 12, and 13 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of these claims has been withdrawn.

2. Applicant's amendment filed on February 28, 2006, has overcome the rejection of claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b), 103(a). Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, the amendment has resulted in a new ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

3. Applicant's arguments filed on February 28, 2006, with regard to claims 22-28 have been fully considered but they still have not overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kuroda.

Specification

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves

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modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

5. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it does not adequately apprise the reader of the disclosed subject matter. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

6. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

7. The amendment to claim 1 has overcome the claim objection. All claim objections are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

9. Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 14 has been amended to recite that the first transistor of the first pixel, the second transistor of the second pixel, and the third transistor of the third pixel are connected to the first line. However, as shown in Figure 2, for example, Applicant does not disclose *any* line that has all three types of transistors connected to it.

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected because they are dependent on claim 14.

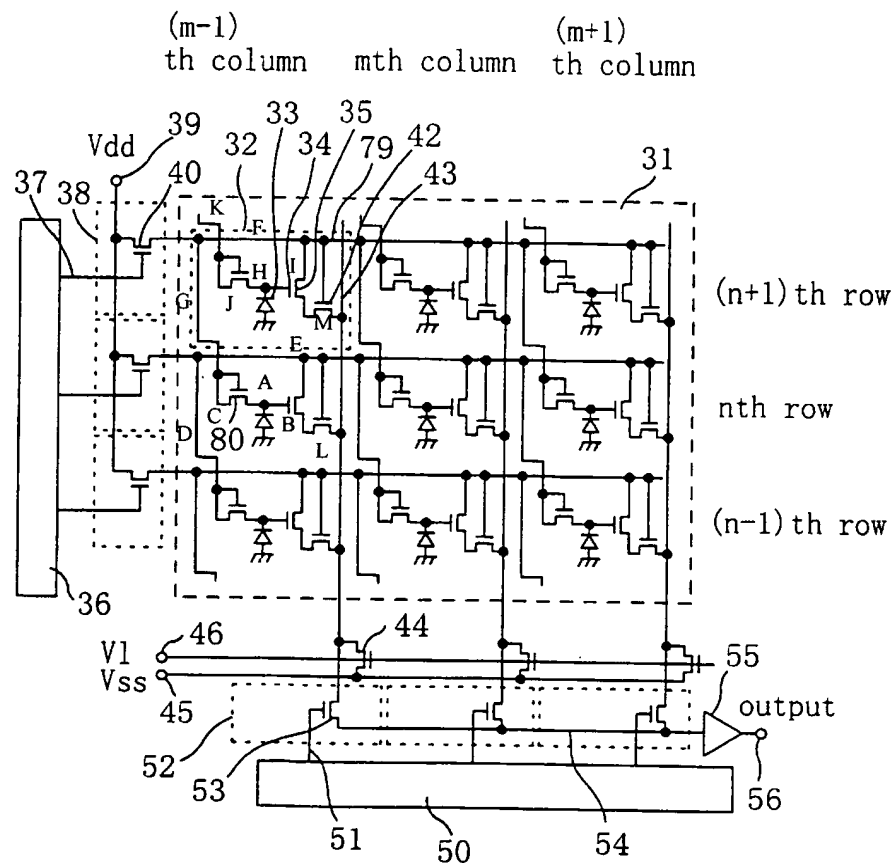
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

11. The following figure includes the labels that will be used in the Kuroda rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e):



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12. Claims 22-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuroda (U.S. Patent No. 6,512,543).

Regarding **claim 22**, Kuroda discloses an image sensor, comprising:

a first pixel (D), said first pixel comprising a first photoreceptor (A), a first follower transistor (B; see column 6, lines 57-58) having a gate connected to said first photoreceptor, a drain of said first follower transistor connected to a first line (E), and a first reset transistor (C; see column 9, lines 19-20), a drain of said first reset transistor connected to a second line (F); and

a second pixel (G), said second pixel comprising a second photoreceptor (H), a second follower transistor (I) having a gate connected to said second photoreceptor, a drain of said second follower transistor connected to said second line (F), and a second reset transistor (J), a drain of said second reset transistor connected to a third line (K).

a third pixel (the above figure can have more pixels than those shown; see column 9, lines 15-24), said third pixel comprising a third photoreceptor (corresponding to H in an unshown pixel above pixel G), a third follower transistor (corresponding to I) having a gate connected to said third photoreceptor, a drain of said third follower transistor connected to said third line (K), and a third reset transistor (corresponding to J), a drain of said third reset transistor connected to another line (corresponding to K).

Regarding **claim 23**, Kuroda discloses:

said first, second, and third lines are power supply lines (power is supplied from Vdd via row-driving transistors 40).

Regarding **claim 24**, Kuroda discloses:

said first, second, and third lines are connected to a same power supply (power is supplied from Vdd via row-driving transistors 40).

Regarding **claim 25**, Kuroda discloses:

said first pixel further comprises a first select transistor (L) connected to said first follower transistor, said second pixel further comprises a second select transistor (M) connected to said second follower transistor.

Regarding **claim 26**, Kuroda discloses:

said second select transistor and said first reset transistor each have a gate connected to a first reset/select line (F).

Regarding **claim 27**, Kuroda discloses:

a gate of said first selected transistor is connected to a second reset/select line (E).

Regarding **claim 28**, Kuroda discloses:

a gate of said second reset transistor is connected to a third reset/select line (K).

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Whipkey, whose telephone number is (571) 272-7321. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. eastern daylight time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz, can be reached at (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications


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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JTW

JTW

April 7, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lye', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

LIN YE
PRIMARY EXAMINER